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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1955

VOLUME 71 NUMBER 23

CONTENTS

PAGE

COTTON

Peru's Cotton Exports Decline in 1954-55 660
U.S. Cotton Linters Exports, September 1955 661
U.S. Cotton Linters Imports, September 1955 661
U.S. Cotton Imports, September 1955 661
Canada's Cotton Consumption Drops Slightly in October 662
Israel Produces First Commercial Cotton Crop in 1954-55 663

DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

U.S. Exports and Imports of Egg and Poultry Products, September 1954 and 1955 648
U.K. Exports of Condensed Milk Continue at High Rate 649
Further Information on Canadian Dairy Situation 650
Belgian Dairy Situation 651
Milk Production Up in France 652
Franco-Swiss Trade Agreement: Swiss Dairy Exports 652

FATS, OILSEEDS, AND OILS

French West African Peanut Marketings Up Substantially 663
French Olive Oil Production at Postwar Low 664
Italian Olive Oil Production Outlook Lowest in 8 Years 664
Philippine Coconut Products Situation, January-September 665
Suez Canal Traffic in Soybeans Still High 666

FRUIT, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

1955 Iraqi Date Crop as Large as Last Year 636
U.K. Issues Licenses for Fruit Imports 636
French Apple Supplies and Prices Lower 637
Larger Exports of Spanish Citrus Anticipated 637
Malayan Import List for Fruit Revised 638
Bean and Pea Production Increases Sharply in Japan 638
Lebanon Apple Production Trend Is Up 639
Ceylon Broadens Imports of Fruits, Vegetables, and Dried Beans 639

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, FEEDS, AND SEEDS

Argentine Grain Exports Show Substantial Decline 641
India Declining as Market for Grains 641

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

Third Quarter Australian Livestock and Meat Situation 642
French Meat Production and Consumption Rising 643
New Zealand Completes Record Meat Production Year 644

(Cont'd. inside front cover)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

1955 IRAQI DATE CROP AS LARGE AS LAST YEAR

The 1955 Iraqi date crop is now estimated at 360,000 short tons, approximately as large as the 1954 crop which is currently estimated in Baghdad at 355,000 tons, a 30,000-ton reduction from the last estimate. About 280,000 tons of the new crop were reportedly available for export, plus 58,000 tons of old-crop dates at Basra. About 135,000 tons have already been committed for export as of November 1, 1955, leaving 203,000 tons still available for export. Export commitments to that date consisted of 64,000 tons from Basra and 71,000 tons from the central area.

U.K. ISSUES LICENSES FOR FRUIT IMPORTS

The United Kingdom has issued licenses for the import of $1,820,000 worth of apples and pears from Argentina under the Anglo-Argentine trade agreement, to complete the quota for these fruits. A further quota of $1,400,000 under this agreement remains for the import of other fresh and dried fruit from Argentina. The majority of this quota is expected to be taken by fresh rather than dried fruit. Licenses for these imports are expected to be issued towards the end of the year.

Applications for the import of apples and pears into the United Kingdom during the first six months of 1956 from OEEC countries and Chile have been received. The closing date for applications for import under this agreement was November 21. The quotas for these imports are $7,000,000 worth of apples and $644,000 worth of pears. The Board of Trade is studying the applications and expects to grant the licenses sometime towards the end of the year.

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(Cont'd from front cover)

SUGAR AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

World Coffee Production Forecast for 1955-56 Up 1.5 Million Bags..... 667
World Jute Supply Larger in 1955-56.................................. 645

TOBACCO

Estimated 1955 World Production of Leaf Tobacco...................... 653
Nigerian Tobacco Imports Up 25 Percent............................... 658
Pakistan's Demand for U.S. Flue-Cured Leaf Increases................. 658
Malayan Tobacco Imports at Postwar Record Level...................... 659

FRENCH APPLE SUPPLIES AND PRICES LOWER

French production of table apples this season is slightly smaller than last year but quality is reported to be better. The volume of fruit marketed thus far this season is larger than last year but at lower prices. Wholesale prices for French varieties are about one-fifth lower than last season, while prices for American-named varieties are down about 8 percent In mid-November these prices ranged from 8 to 12 cents per pound.

Non-dollar apple import quotas this year are expected to be 40 percent larger than last year. Principal countries in this trade are Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Argentina, and Chile. Trade sources anticipate a special import program including dollar apples later in the season. Announcement is not expected before late January or February 1956.

LARGER EXPORTS OF SPANISH CITRUS ANTICIPATED

Total exports of citrus fruit from Spain in 1955-56 are expected to exceed 41 million boxes, including 40 million boxes of oranges, over 1 million boxes of lemons, and 98,000 boxes of grapefruit. This would be 30 percent larger than last season's citrus exports of 29 million boxes.

It is estimated that nearly half of this citrus will be available for export in the first part of the season up to the end of January, some one-third in February and March, and the remainder from April until the middle of June.

France has established a schedule to import 6,315,000 boxes from Spain this season. In 1954-55, she imported over 6,928,000 cases. This reduction is mostly in the quantity of loose oranges imported.

The following table shows the schedule of French imports of Spanish citrus:

--1955-56 season--

Period	Total for the period	Approximate number of boxes per week
	- - 1,000 boxes - -	
Nov. 28 - Jan. 7	677	110
Jan. 8 - Feb. 5	630	157
Feb. 6 - Mar. 5	1,134	283
Mar. 6 - Apr. 15	2,646	441
Apr. 16 - 30	567	283
May 1 onwards	661	220
Total.............	6,315	

MALAYAN IMPORT LIST FOR FRUIT REVISED

All Malayan imports are licensed either under an open general license or a specific license; imports from the dollar area must have a specific license. As is the case in most other sterling areas, only essential items not available in sterling areas may be licensed for import from the dollar-area countries. This policy is designed to conserve dollar exchange.

Some dollar area goods are imported by Malayan importers indirectly through agents in Hong Kong. The transshipment through Hong Kong adds to the final cost of the goods, but is a means of importing United States goods which otherwise could not be imported.

Under the revised import lists, licenses are issued freely for direct import from the United States of such items as fresh apples, citrus fruits, fruit juice concentrates for industrial purposes, and dried fruits.

Such items as fresh pears, canned pineapples and fresh, dried or canned vegetables of all kinds are not granted licenses for direct import.

BEAN AND PEA PRODUCTION INCREASES SHARPLY IN JAPAN

The 1955 production of beans in Japan is estimated at 2.8 million bags, or 75 percent larger than the 1.6 million bags produced last year, and 47 percent larger than the prewar average of 1.9 million bags. These are the kidney-shaped beans--Phaseolus vulgaris. Other kinds are mentioned below.

Export availabilities are estimated at 100,000 bags of peas and beans--likely the Otenashi class of beans. These beans and peas are both described as selected quality. It is reported that these may be exported to Western European countries, including the United Kingdom and the Republic of Germany, if price negotiations can be arranged satisfactorily. Prices of Otenashi beans were quoted at $9.00 per hundred pounds in the United Kingdom on November 19, c.i.f. London, and peas, f.o.b. Rotterdam, as follows: Blue peas, $5.25 per hundredweight; Imperials, $5.68, and Marrowfats, $6.00.

Pea production in Japan is estimated at 600,000 bags in 1955, or 80 percent larger than the 330,000 bags estimated last year when 70,000 bags were exported to the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

Japan produces several kinds of pulses, including Adzuki beans, broad beans, Mung beans, and cowpeas, in addition to the beans and peas mentioned above.

The Adzuki is a small red bean (likely of the cowpea family) that has a distinct white stripe at the hilum. It is produced, consumed, and traded extensively in the Orient. While Japan often exports a few of the kidney type bean and some Adzuki beans, that country is essentially a net importer of most kinds of pulses.

LEBANON APPLE PRODUCTION TREND IS UP

Apple production in Lebanon for 1955 is estimated at 1.3 million boxes and is expected to reach 5 million boxes around 1960. The apples are planted on terraces in the hill country. The terraces are expensive to build because of the earth that must be moved and retaining walls that must be constructed. The sharp uptrend in new planting is now subsiding.

At present, about half the crop is consumed locally and about half is exported to the Arab countries. Egypt is the principal market. The proximity of Lebanon to these markets and the tariff preferences of all members of the Arab League has provided an excellent market for Lebanon's apples; however, Lebanon is experiencing difficulty in marketing the expanded production at the present $2 to $3 on tree prices for a northwest box of apples.

Packing is all being done by hand, but the Lebanese government is becoming increasingly marketing conscious and there is talk of setting up one or more central packing plants.

CEYLON BROADENS IMPORTS OF FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND DRIED BEANS

Ceylon recently released a list of items that may be imported from the United States. The following are of particular interest to the fruit and vegetable, and bean trade:

Under open general license: Beans and pulses
Under individual license: Fruits, fresh; fruits, dried or otherwise preserved (except in sugar), other than dates; currants; raisins; prunes; and vegetables, preserved or tinned.

For an open general license, no written permit is required; there is no limit to the quantity or value of goods imported nor any limit to the amount of foreign exchange granted. For individual licenses, written permit is required and their issuance is at the discretion of the Controller of Imports. Foreign exchange is made available only up to the value specified in the license.

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Argentina's Grain Exports During July-September, 1954 and 1955

Destination	Wheat		Rye		Corn		Oats		Barley		Total	
	July-Sept.		July-Sept.		July-Sept.		July-Sept.		July-Sept.		July-Sept.	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	--Metric tons--											
Brazil	170,259	431,622					2,129				172,388	431,622
Chile	64,493	8,692									64,493	8,692
Paraguay	11,405	8,001									11,405	8,001
Peru	62,107	44,929			1,100						63,207	44,929
Austria	15,650	22,576	3,396		12,653		2,550				34,249	22,576
Belgium	61,726	36,759	950		68,142	45,890	31,325		16,538	1,500	178,681	84,149
Czechoslovakia										21,390		21,390
Denmark	17,683	4,604	170		28,105		5,702			400	51,660	5,004
Finland		19,470	18,084	28,909	1,000	9,598	500				19,584	57,977
France					36,586	29,988	1,100				37,686	29,988
Germany	200,667	22,896	2,100	1,000	129,452	13,500	13,586		78,843	28,134	424,648	65,530
Hungary	8,000										8,000	
Italy	500	61,754	1,000	55,300	37,613	13,033	8,861	4,300		13,255	47,974	147,642
Netherlands	36,139	59,908	3,100	4,376	123,411	15,076	48,580		11,121	21,197	222,351	100,557
Norway		11,400		10,000	5,850						5,850	21,400
Poland		7,900	18,184								18,184	7,900
Sweden					18,870	7,500	4,570				23,440	7,500
Switzerland	10,173	4,950	1,170		7,044	8,850	36,426		1,000	6,193	55,813	19,993
United Kingdom	120,687	67,708			187,577	5,258			3,626		311,890	72,966
Lebanon		1,700										1,700
British Africa	8,308										8,308	
French Africa					501						501	
Canary Islands					19,200						19,200	
China	7,482										7,482	
Japan	53,911				73,067						126,978	
Total	849,190	814,869	48,154	99,585	750,171	148,693	155,329	4,300	111,128	92,069	1,913,972	1,159,516

Compiled from El Cerealista.

ARGENTINE GRAIN EXPORTS SHOW SUBSTANTIAL DECLINE

Argentine grain exports during the first three months (July-September) of the 1955-56 fiscal year amounted in the aggregate to 1,160,000 metric tons compared with 1,914,000 tons in the same quarter of 1954-55, an over-all reduction of 39.4 percent. The decline was due to much lower exports of corn and oats. Wheat and barley exports also showed reductions, but those of rye were substantially larger than in the same quarter last year.

Over half of the 815,000 tons of wheat exported during the first quarter of the current fiscal year went to Brazil. Most of the balance went to European markets. All of the 149,000 tons of corn and all of the rye, oats, and barley exported in this period also went to European countries. (See table, opposite page.)

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INDIA DECLINING AS MARKET FOR GRAINS

Owing in large part to the Indian Government's policy of stepping up agricultural production, that country's total imports of foodgrains declined from 4,725,000 long tons in 1951 to an expected total of only 730,000 tons in 1955 (calendar years). Total production of foodgrains (including pulses) increased about 30 percent from 1950-51 (July-June) to 1954-55, and production in the latter year was about 4 million tons above the goal of 61.6 million tons set for 1955-56 under the first five-year plan. The output of wheat in 1954-55 was just a little greater than the 1955-56 target. Production of rice increased about 20 percent during the four-year period.

India's total imports of wheat declined from nearly 3 million long tons in 1951 to an expected total of less than half a million tons in 1955. The decline was not only very sharp but steady throughout the five-year period, excepting a small increase from 1954 to 1955. The 1955 imports of rice are expected to total only a little more than one-third of the 1951 figure. Imports of rice also declined steadily throughout the five-year period with the exception that the decrease from 1952 to 1953 was much sharper than the year before, followed by a considerable increase from 1953 to 1954. (Text cont'd., next page.)

India's total imports of wheat and rice, 1951-55 1/

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955 2/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
Wheat.......	2,977,800	2,459,100	1,612,347	196,600	466,000
Rice........	749,000	722,000	190,000	603,000	265,000

1/ Calendar years. 2/ Preliminary data.

The Government of India's second five-year plan calls for an increase in production of foodgrains by 1961 of 10 million long tons over the 1955-56 anticipated production of about 66 million tons. This is to be accomplished by bringing 20 million additional acres of land under irrigation, reclaiming 1 million acres of other waste land, starting 5,000 seed farms, and providing additional seed stores. In addition, the availability and distribution of fertilizers is to be increased three-fold, more storage warehouses are to be constructed, and the policy of supporting and stabilizing producer prices of farm products will be continued. Also, 12,000 new rural credit societies are to be established to provide farmers with the credit they will need for increasing production.

However, despite this policy to increase production, India may from time to time be in need of substantial imports of foodgrains. The vagaries of the weather, as a result of which India is frequently plagued by severe droughts and floods, may at times create acute foodgrain shortages necessitating greater imports. Increases in domestic prices of foodgrains to relatively high levels may also give the Indian Government reason to increase imports in order to bring the prices down. The success of the second five-year plan depends to a large extent upon a stable price system. In addition, imports of one or more of the foodgrains may have to be increased if the Government should change its stockpiling policy or if domestic production should not be sufficient for this purpose.

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THIRD QUARTER AUSTRALIAN LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Numbers of livestock slaughtered during the three-month period of May, June, and July were smaller for all classes of livestock, except hogs, which increased. Over-all meat production declined 5.2 percent during this period.

For the fiscal year 1954-55, lamb production increased by 13 percent to 163,000 tons. Mutton changed slightly downward from 266,000 tons in 1954 to 261,000 tons in 1955. Pork increased from 94,000 tons to 108,500 tons. Veal remained largely the same, about 47,500 tons. Total meat production for the year ending June 30, 1955, was 1,333,500 tons as compared with 1,290,000 tons for the year ending June 30, 1954, a 3-percent increase.

A sharp drop in lamb and mutton exports caused a 12.9-percent decline in meat exports compared with the same quarter of the preceding year. The over-all figures for the fiscal year show little change in the meat export picture. Livestock was exported for breeding purposes, primarily to Japan, and for slaughter to Singapore and the Philippine Republic. (See Foreign Crops and Markets for Aug. 29, 1955, p. 225.)

. . .

An extraordinarily good pasture and feed situation, coupled with strong demand, have made conditions very favorable to Australian livestock producers. Livestock prices for all classes declined since August 1955, when they were slightly above August 1954 prices.

Australian breeders imported 81 head of cattle from the United States: 68 Santa Gertrudis, 2 Holsteins, and 11 polled cattle of various breeds.

FRENCH MEAT PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION RISING

French livestock numbers have increased steadily, bringing about a steady upward trend in meat production. The increased meat production has been absorbed by a larger domestic per capita consumption, and through increased exports.

Due to the efforts of the French Meat Market Rehabilitation Fund, and the French government, beef exports have increased to 110 million pounds per year. (Text cont'd., next page.)

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FRANCE: Production, imports, and exports of livestock products and fish, calendar year 1954 and 1955 1/

Item	Production		Imports		Exports	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	Million pounds					
Beef	2204	2770	6.6	2.2	103.5	110
Veal	790	835	0	0	0	0
Mutton	242	253	15.4	11.2	.5	0
Pork	2/1825	2/1860	35.2	66	11.2	4.4
Horse meat	198	198	0	0	0	0
Rabbit meat	198	187	0	0	0	0
Edible Offal	475	484	13.2	11.2	2.2	2.2
Fish	1115	1120	110	110	103.5	105.6
Lard	132	143	0	0	15.4	22
Tallow, total	242	264	1.3	1.1	4.4	11.2

1/ Forecast
2/ Carcass weight production of 1,980 million pounds and 2,024 million pounds respectively before allowance for fat reduced for lard.

Sources: Ministry of Agriculture, trade contacts, Bureau of Customs and forecasts by Office of Agricultural Attache.

Notwithstanding lower hog prices, production of pork is expected to be about 2 percent larger than last year. Imports increased during the early part of the year when prices were higher.

French foreign trade in pork consists mainly of exporting low priced cuts and importing higher priced cuts.

NEW ZEALAND COMPLETES RECORD MEAT PRODUCTION YEAR

The New Zealand Meat Board states that New Zealand has just completed a record meat-production year.

Provisional figures for the 12 months ended September 30, set the total output of carcass meat and offal for export at 384,763 tons, about 46,730 tons more than was exported in the 1953-54 season. The year just ended exceeded the previous record year, 1946-47, by 17,263 tons.

Most of this meat was exported to the United Kingdom. Reports indicate that cash receipts have been in excess of those received in previous years. Although not all of this meat has yet reached the market, and details of foreign exchange earnings are not available, it is apparent that the country's income from the export of packing-house products will be above that of last year.

Lamb slaughter of 13,408,755 carcasses was 886,146 larger than the 1953-54 production.

Chilled beef production reached 243,381 quarters (16,836 tons), a new record. The best prewar record was 242,202 quarters, made in 1938-39.

Over-all frozen and chilled beef production was 57,609 tons, 39.5 percent above 1953-54.

These figures do not include canned meats, for which figures are not yet available.

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WORLD JUTE SUPPLY LARGER IN 1955-56

The world supply of jute for the 1955-56 season is considerably larger than for the preceding year. The production of 4,700 million pounds approximately equals the large crop of 1952, and is nearly 40 percent greater than the 3,400 million pounds produced in 1954. The carryover of June 30, 1955, was relatively small in the growing areas, but both domestic consumption and foreign exports of these areas are expected to increase in this season. Prices, since early forecasts of a large crop were announced, have remained fairly steady at or near the controlled minimum export price in Pakistan, the principal exporting country.

Pakistan and India are again producing about 97 percent of the world supply of jute. Large increases are reported in these countries in 1955. Taiwan, Brazil, the Philippine Republic, and Burma are reporting increases in production. Nepal and Japan report little change in output, and most of the other producing countries are reporting decreasing production. (See Table I, p. 646.)

Production in Pakistan and India has been difficult to determine because of conflicting estimates among government and various trade sources. In Pakistan, especially, trade estimates are larger than the final revised figures of government sources. Export and consumption data seem to be more in line with some of the trade estimates.

The controlled acreage of jute in Pakistan was planned to produce about 2,200 million pounds this year, but excess acreages that were not destroyed because of a later government decision, combined with good growing weather and relatively small flood damage are believed to have resulted in an exceptionally large crop. The crops of 1953 and 1954 were relatively small. In 1953 the planted acreage was reduced by controls to compensate for the large output and carryover of 1952. The planted acreage for 1954 was reduced by severe floods.

The current crop in India is the largest since 1952. Mesta (Hibiscus cannabinus) is used in Indian mills as a low grade jute, and its production extends the jute supply. (See Table II, p. 647.)

All Indian-produced jute is consumed domestically. On the other hand most of the Pakistan crop is exported as raw fiber. Loom capacity is increasing in Pakistan, but it is still small when compared with that of India. Mill consumption is expected to increase in both countries as the current crop of raw jute becomes available.

Exports of Pakistani jute are shipped principally to India, but European markets account for a sizable share. Practically all of the Indian imports of the raw fiber is from Pakistan. (See tables, next two pages. Text cont'd., p. 648.)

Table I.--JUTE 1/: World production, by countries, averages 1935-39, 1947-51, and years 1952-1955 2/

(In thousands of pounds)

Country	5-year average		1952	1953	1954	1955
	1935-39	1947-51				Preliminary
Pakistan 3/	4/	2,236,674	2,880,000	1,400,000	2,000,000	3,000,000
India 3/	4/ 3,360,856	1,178,904	1,680,000	1,200,000	1,300,000	1,600,000
Nepal 5/	21,760	16,349	12,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Taiwan (Formosa)	26,443	17,987	44,411	12,743	28,660	34,761
Iran	7,661	8,255	8,818	6/	6/	6/
Japan	2,933	1,879	3,194	3,340	2,612	3,000
Indochina	729	7/ 16,755	6/	6/	6/	6/
Brazil	113	28,736	32,716	45,902	51,416	57,130
Thailand	6/	8/ 10,935	5,512	6/	6/	6/
Other countries 9/	1,241	3,696	25,349	18,715	9,312	18,109
Total 9/	3,421,736	3,520,170	4,692,000	2,690,700	3,402,000	4,723,000

1/ Excludes mesta and other jute substitutes wherever possible to separate them.
2/ Year of harvest.
3/ Official estimates 1935-39 and 1947-51. Beginning 1952, F.A.S. estimates based on official and trade data.
4/ Pakistan included with India prior to 1947.
5/ Estimates of imports into India from Nepal.
6/ Not available.
7/ Average 1945-49.
8/ Average 1948-52.
9/ Excludes Communist China, Manchuria, and U.S.S.R., but includes estimates for other jute producing areas for which data are not available.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Foreign Service officers, trade sources accepted as reliable, and estimates based on best available information.

Table II. - Pakistan and India: Jute supply and distribution estimates, 1952-53 to 1955-56

Supply and distribution	July - June year			
	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 Preliminary
Pakistan	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Carryover (adjusted), July 1 1/	680	1,400	600	200
Crop - Jute 1/	2,880	1,400	2,000	3,000
Mesta 2/	25	-	-	-
Imports	-	-	-	-
Total supply	3,585	2,800	2,600	3,200
Exports - To India 3/	596	544	631	4/ (400)
Other 3/	1,513	1,509	1,400	4/ (1,600)
Consumption 3/	5/ 40	112	4/ 280	4/ (400)
Carryover, June 30 1/	1,080	600	129	4/ (800)
Adjustment 6/	356	35	160	-
Total distribution	3,585	2,800	2,600	(3,200)
India				
Carryover (adjusted), July 1 1/ 5/	600	750	570	500
Crop - Jute 1/	1,680	1,200	1,300	1,600
Mesta 3/	273	262	442	400
Imports 3/	531	605	1/ 483	4/ (500)
Total supply	3,084	2,817	2,795	(3,000)
Exports 3/	-	-	-	-
Consumption 3/ 5/	2,224	2,164	4/ 2,200	4/ (2,400)
Carryover, June 30 1/ 5/	750	600	520	4/ (600)
Adjustment 6/	110	53	75	-
Total distribution	3,084	2,817	2,795	(3,000)

1/ Estimated from trade sources. 2/ Official data. Production of mesta (hibiscus cannabinus) prohibited in Pakistan beginning 1953. 3/ Official data. 4/ Forecast from trade sources and incomplete official data. 5/ Probably includes mesta. 6/ Includes unrecorded trade, disappearances, and stocks.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from official records of Pakistan and India, reports from Foreign Service officers, trade estimates, and Foreign Agricultural Service estimates based on incomplete data.

The price of jute has been fairly steady at or near the fixed minimum export price in Pakistan. Little change was noted as a result of the devaluation of the Pakistani rupee because the fixed price was in terms of pounds sterling. An export tax has also helped to keep any advantages of price within the country. The Jute Board of Pakistan has arranged for purchase through cooperatives of surplus jute from the current crop. This move is designed to prevent the price from falling to an unprofitable level.

Stocks carried over in the producing areas from the past year's crop were believed to be relatively small. In spite of a lowered level of stocks, buyers throughout the consuming countries have been a little slow in placing orders.

UNITED STATES: Exports and imports of egg and poultry products, September 1954-1955

Items	Quantity		Value	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	--(1,000)--		--($1,000)--	
Exports:				
Eggs and egg products				
Shell eggs, doz.	6,288	5,601	1,893	2,044
Egg solids, lbs.	108	8	129	8
Eggs, frozen or otherwise preserved, lbs.	36	109	17	33
Poultry and game, chilled or frozen				
Chickens and capons, lbs.	584	851	242	348
Other poultry and game, lbs.	718	1,568	319	743
Poultry, canned, lbs.	227	262	94	90
Poultry, live (excluding baby chicks), lbs.	114	141	28	41
Baby chicks	1,423	975	228	172
Total value			2,950	3,479
Imports:				
Eggs and egg products				
Shell eggs, (including duck eggs), doz.	143	85	75	48
Egg solids, lbs.	2	0	4	0
Poultry and game (excluding live), lbs.	16	1	56	3
Poultry, live (excluding baby chicks), lbs.	14	56	4	15
Baby chicks	11	0	2	0
Total value			141	66

U.K. EXPORTS OF CONDENSED MILK CONTINUE AT HIGH RATE

The high rate of exports of condensed milk from the United Kingdom continues. In January-September, 1955, exports of both condensed whole and condensed skimmed milk were approximately double the quantity shipped during the same period of 1954. The principal markets in both years were Malaya and the British West Indies.

UNITED KINGDOM: Exports of condensed milk, January-September, 1955, compared with January-September, 1954

Destination	1954		1955	
	Whole	Skimmed	Whole	Skimmed
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Malaya	17,078	170	33,190	943
Trinidad & Tobago	3,602	-	5,670	836
Jamaica	882	-	4,835	278
Malta	41	-	2,528	1,263
Republic of Germany	1,689	104	2,012	115
Egypt	1,495	2	1,636	9
North Borneo	415	-	1,373	3
British Honduras	378	-	939	-
Gibraltar	1,024	40	923	62
Netherlands	24	4	592	747
British Guiana	193	-	507	232
Libya	217	-	491	234
Gold Coast	98	191	440	180
Hong Kong	500	202	385	1,222
Others	5,830	2,442	6,789	4,595
Total	33,466	3,155	62,310	10,719

The United States has been exporting to only two of these markets, Jamaica and the Republic of Germany. In 1955 United States exports at 13,000 pounds were 5,000 pounds above 1954 exports to Jamaica. However, no trade in canned milk has materialized with the German Republic in 1955, whereas in 1954 the Republic imported 118,000 pounds of canned milk from the United States.

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON CANADIAN DAIRY SITUATION

Several inquiries have been received regarding the "Canadian Dairy Situation" (Foreign Crops and Markets, Nov. 7, 1955). To clarify the dairy picture in Canada at present the following tables are presented for like periods in 1954 and 1955:

Canadian dairy production

Product	Production (1,000 lbs.)	
	Jan.-Aug., 1954	Jan.-Aug., 1955
Creamery butter	223,093	219,442
Cheddar cheese	59,618	52,886
Evaporated milk (whole)	210,168	208,499
Condensed milk (whole)	8,982	8,109
Whole milk powder	13,630	15,512
Nonfat dry milk solids	61,891	57,389

Canadian exports of dairy products

Product	Production (1,000 lbs.)	
	Jan.-June, 1954	Jan.-June, 1955
Cheddar cheese	448	5,264
Evaporated milk	3,326	2,632
Condensed milk	1,008	638
Whole milk powder	6,720	6,698
Nonfat dry milk solids	4,962	3,662

The increase in Cheddar cheese exports (the only product to show a rise over 1954) is due entirely to the Canadians' taking full advantage of the North American import quota set by the United Kingdom. The drop of 25 percent in exports of nonfat dry milk solids was due to decreased takings by Mexico.

In October, Canada held 126 million pounds of butter in dairy factories; last year stocks of butter amounted to 115 million pounds. Cheddar cheese held in cold storage and dairy factories in Canada currently total 146 million pounds compared to 149 million pounds in 1954. Evaporated milk stocks currently total 64 million pounds--1 million pounds under the same period last year. Condensed milk stocks at 1.4 million pounds are slightly above the October 1954 total. Whole milk powder stocks amount to 2.8 million pounds compared to 1.9 at this time last year; while nonfat dry milk solids stocks, including animal feed, presently amount to 11.8 million pounds compared to 19 million pounds in October 1954.

Domestic consumption of nonfat dry milk solids in Canada is estimated to be nearly 15 percent greater during 1955 than in 1954. This strong domestic demand has resulted in some price increases. On April 30, 1955, first-grade spray was being quoted in the price range of 9 to 11 cents, f.o.b. Toronto. On October 8 quotations for this product were 14 to 15½ cents per pound.

Canada does very little import trade in dairy products, with the exception of cheese. Cheese imports for the first five months in 1955 were running 5.2 million pounds; total cheese imports for all of 1954 amounted to 5.9 million pounds. Of these 5.2 million pounds imported through May 1955, 539,000 pounds came from the United States; in 1954 imports from the United States amounted to 649,000 pounds.

BELGIAN BUTTER SITUATION

Since drought-reduced milk production this past summer would be felt primarily in lower butter output, the Belgian Ministry of Agriculture secured 2.2 million pounds of butter from Denmark. Improved milk production this fall, however, caused the Ministry of Agriculture to reconsider future purchase plans.

Belgium has a preferential trade agreement with the Netherlands and secures almost all imported butter from this source. The agreement allows Belgium to purchase butter elsewhere, however, if the Netherlands cannot fulfill Belgian requirements. The minimum import price for Dutch butter is 74.2 cents per pound--but the Belgian Government gets a rebate from the Netherlands, according to the Luxemburg protocol; this currently amounts to 21.7 cents per pound.

The price paid for Danish butter was not quoted but is reported as being considerably higher than the 42 to 44 cents per pound for United States offerings of Grade "A" 82-score butter. Danish butter is readily accepted in Belgium; it is unsalted and used for blending with domestic stocks in storage.

A small purchase of 2,200 pounds has been made from the United States for delivery in January. This is for Belgian Governmental experiments to determine the blending character, flavor, and consumer acceptance. Immediate delivery and an attractive price are other important considerations for any supplier to the Belgian market.

During the six months from November 1955 through April 1956, estimated Belgian butter consumption is 105.8 million pounds, of which 79.3 million pounds will be supplied by local production and 13.2 million pounds will come from stocks. The remaining 13.3 million pounds are to be supplied from Dutch and Danish imports, of which the Netherlands will furnish over 80 percent.

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MILK PRODUCTION UP IN FRANCE

Ministry of Agriculture officials in France estimate that country's milk production in 1955 will be about 4 percent higher than the 1954 level, which was reported at 40.9 billion pounds. This production will be realized despite the drought, the main effect of which was a large reduction in fall butter production, particularly in the Normandy and Brittany areas. The total output of butter for the year, however, is expected to be about 5 percent over 1954.

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FRANCO-SWISS TRADE AGREEMENT AND SWISS AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

Differences of opinion over the Franco-Swiss trade agreement, as reported in Foreign Crops and Markets for October 10, 1955, have been reconciled and the new agreement has now been ratified by the Swiss Federal Council. The trade agreement is to be applied retroactively from July 1, 1955, and is valid to June 30, 1957. Quota allocations, however, have been restricted to nine months--July 1, 1955, to March 31, 1956.

Several Swiss agricultural exports will benefit considerably from the enlarged quotas. Among these is cheese, since the French import quota for cheese now amounts to just under $6.1 million annually compared to $4.9 million previously. On a product basis this means an additional 110,000 pounds of cheese will be exported to France up to June 30, 1956, over exports to France for the period ending June 30, 1955.

The first global French import authorization granted to the Swiss Cheese Union is for 6.6 million pounds and is valid until February 28, 1956. The second permit will cover approximately 4.0 million pounds and will be valid for the period from March 1, 1956 to June 30, 1956. About 93 percent of the quota will be in Emmental and Gruyere type cheese; 3.7 will be for Sbrinz; while the remaining quota will include processed cheese.

The new quota for canned milk is now set at $3.5 million. Previous quotas ran as low as $2.1 million. The milk allowed to be exported to France under this agreement is medicinal milk and infants milk. Primary exports of such milk are Guigoz, Nestles, and Sulgen.

The Swiss dairy industry will benefit considerably by these concessions, although the French have extracted additional export quotas from the Swiss on French quality wines.

ESTIMATED 1955 WORLD PRODUCTION OF LEAF TOBACCO [1]

Summary

World tobacco production reached a record high level of 8,130 million pounds in 1955, continuing the upward trend which has extended over many years. This year's harvest is 2.3 percent above the 1954 output of 7,946 million pounds, and is one-eighth larger than the 1947-51 average of 7,215 million. Most of the increase in production as compared with 1954 is accounted for by an increase of about 6 percent in total output in Asia, while North and South America, Africa, and Oceania showed slight decreases. The countries with the greatest increases in output were Japan, China, Turkey, the United States, Greece, Republic of the Philippines, Pakistan, and Thailand. Substantial decreases in production as compared with 1954 were reported in Canada, India, France, Brazil, Indonesia, and Nyasaland. There was very little change in total tobacco acreage harvested in 1955, with increases in China, Greece, Thailand, and Japan being almost offset by decreases in the United States, India, and Canada. The over-all average yield per acre showed a slight increase from the 1954 level.

PRODUCTION BY AREAS

North America

The 1955 tobacco crop in North America is estimated at 2,700 million pounds, a decline of about 10 million pounds as compared with 1954. Increases in the United States and the Dominican Republic were more than offset by declines in Canada and Cuba.

In the United States, output is placed at 2,278 million pounds. This is 41 million pounds or almost 2 percent above last year's crop in spite of an 8.7 percent decrease in acreage. Canada's production at 135.5 million pounds is 26.7 percent below the 1954 record harvest as a result of a reduction in flue-cured acreage coupled with an early frost, which destroyed about 30 million pounds of leaf.

South America

Tobacco production in South America in 1955 totaled 489 million pounds, a slight reduction from the 1954 level. Output in Brazil is estimated at 311.4 million pounds, almost 4 percent less than the previous year's crop. Declines were also reported in Venezuela and Argentina, while larger crops than in 1954 were indicated for Colombia, Paraguay, and Chile.

See World Tobacco Production table, next two pages. Text continues, page 656.

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[1] Does not include Manchuria. Data relative to the quantities of tobacco grown and consumed at home without entering commercial channels are not available in many countries. Farm sales weight is about 10 percent above the average redried weight, which is normally reported in export trade statistics.

TOBACCO: Estimated acreage, yield and production in specified countries harvested in calendar year 1955 with comparisons - farm sales weight 1/

Continent and country	Acreage harvested				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average		1954	1955 2/	Average		1954	1955 2/	Average		1954	1955 2/
	1935-39	1947-51			1935-39	1947-51			1935-39	1947-51		
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
NORTH AMERICA:												
Canada	69	113	132	107	1,103	1,144	1,402	1,264	76,556	129,445	184,763	135,480
Costa Rica	3/	4	3	3	3/	700	730	730	3/	2,522	2,110	2,110
El Salvador	4/ 1	3	3	4	4/ 650	467	408	477	4/ 750	1,123	1,058	1,832
Guatemala	5	7	7	7	390	567	510	593	1,892	4,065	3,449	4,184
Honduras	4/ 7	11	14	9	4/ 606	684	432	435	4/ 4,500	7,915	6,180	4,141
Mexico	51	90	92	95	750	882	903	882	38,200	79,425	82,968	83,775
Nicaragua	1	2	3	3	900	775	850	850	800	1,150	2,850	2,850
Panama	3/	2	2	2	3/	450	450	450	3/	720	720	900
United States	1,647	1,682	1,666	1,520	887	1,258	1,342	1,429	1,460,054	2,082,727	2,236,408	2,277,709
Caribbean:												
Cuba	108	132	154	153	429	550	719	684	48,092	72,751	110,741	104,683
Dominican Republic	25	45	47	52	985	1,050	883	770	24,625	47,178	41,525	45,532
Haiti	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	4/ 7,500	2,000	2,000
Jamaica	3/	6	2	2	3/	370	380	375	3/	2,219	778	750
Puerto Rico	44	35	40	37	673	769	840	919	29,393	26,921	34,140	34,010
Total North America	1,958	2,132	2,165	1,994	-	-	-	-	1,684,862	2,465,661	2,709,690	2,699,956
SOUTH AMERICA:												
Argentina	29	67	78	76	965	926	848	855	27,983	61,140	66,425	64,760
Bolivia	3	3	3	3	700	700	676	700	2,500	2,100	2,126	2,100
Brazil	250	337	453	451	811	692	714	690	202,703	233,120	323,499	311,395
Chile	9	9	8	7	1,846	1,670	1,580	1,930	16,618	14,719	12,194	13,625
Colombia	4/ 37	47	63	71	4/ 803	958	892	916	4/ 31,697	45,027	56,217	65,036
Paraguay	22	16	17	21	808	1,150	908	944	17,792	18,438	15,432	19,842
Uruguay	1	1	1	1	860	967	1,129	1,125	1,254	957	837	835
Venezuela	10	8	17	14	825	626	882	830	7,700	6,224	14,991	11,629
Total South America	361	488	640	644	-	-	-	-	308,247	381,725	491,721	489,222
EUROPE: (Including U.S.S.R.)												
Austria	3/	3/	1	1	3/	3/	1,344	1,200	3/	3/	1,753	1,587
Belgium	6	5	4	3	2,500	1,924	2,097	2,097	16,431	9,432	9,010	6,010
France	44	70	71	71	1,676	1,557	1,785	1,585	72,995	109,070	126,460	112,435
Western, Germany 5/	33	23	26	27	2,254	2,185	2,073	2,101	74,355	46,982	54,722	56,320
Greece	226	213	266	320	589	531	559	530	132,819	113,320	148,750	169,754
Italy	77	142	115	122	1,175	1,179	1,083	1,062	90,500	167,900	124,626	129,328
Spain	4/ 16	28	49	49	4/ 1,000	1,244	1,370	1,428	4/ 17,322	34,425	67,726	70,582
Sweden	1	1	6/	6/	1,735	1,526	1,650	1,600	1,061	859	560	500
Switzerland	1	3	3	3	1,571	1,844	1,867	1,749	2,276	4,689	4,790	4,409
Yugoslavia	39	89	93	99	969	673	692	736	37,410	59,622	64,372	72,752
Total Western Europe	443	574	628	695	-	-	-	-	445,169	546,299	602,769	623,677
Other Europe(Incl.U.S.S.R.)7/	711	750	781	781	-	-	-	-	736,231	671,449	662,300	662,300
Total Europe	1,154	1,324	1,409	1,476	-	-	-	-	1,181,400	1,217,748	1,265,069	1,285,977

AFRICA:												
Algeria	56	75	70	70	691	595	586	586	38,667	44,671	41,027	41,027
Belgian Congo	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	1,684	1,950	2,000
Kenya	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	300	851	520	520
Nyasaland	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	15,751	28,627	33,153	22,742
Tanganyika	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	874	4,419	5,384	5,160
Uganda	4	7	9	9	400	380	420	420	1,500	2,671	3,780	3,780
French Morocco	1	1	4	3	1,040	1,027	1,270	1,343	704	1,278	4,678	3,748
Madagascar	19	12	20	20	764	620	446	446	14,164	7,190	8,708	8,680
Mauritius	1	1	1	1	1,200	1,335	1,385	1,555	650	758	871	1,037
Mozambique	4/ 1	4	5	5	4/ 385	385	400	400	4/ 467	1,535	2,220	2,220
Nigeria	56	58	52	60	400	400	400	400	22,800	23,490	20,000	25,000
Northern Rhodesia	4	14	15	15	400	475	550	526	1,585	6,656	8,220	7,893
Southern Rhodesia	50	136	175	174	504	626	690	690	26,150	84,740	121,627	121,035
Tunisia	1	2	4	4	1,200	1,100	695	825	1,262	2,205	2,778	3,306
Union of South Africa	47	93	70	74	523	510	490	411	24,372	47,421	34,315	30,466
Total Africa	240	403	425	435	-	-	-	-	149,246	258,196	239,231	278,614
ASIA:												
Asia Minor:												
Cyprus	1	3	5	5	285	460	362	320	226	1,198	1,669	1,600
Iran	35	40	42	46	900	722	642	609	34,542	29,355	27,096	28,027
Iraq	4/ 11	14	25	20	4/ 752	925	773	533	4/ 8,057	12,928	19,180	10,921
Lebanon	4	4/ 5	8	8	600	4/ 705	649	710	2,350	4/ 3,525	4,840	5,291
Syria	11	4/ 16	18	18	730	4/ 719	740	707	8,250	4/ 11,570	13,247	12,511
Turkey	194	304	386	385	661	638	557	673	128,505	194,109	214,905	258,934
Asia Major:												
Burma	108	121	136	132	726	780	796	808	78,400	94,528	108,416	106,490
Ceylon	4/ 14	4/ 11	13	14	4/ 615	4/ 573	536	510	4/ 9,000	4/ 5,730	6,700	7,200
China 8/	1,228	4/1,452	1,400	1,515	1,021	4/ 1,017	957	940	1,254,539	4/ 1,425,000	1,340,000	1,425,000
India	9/ 917	812	912	860	9/ 830	674	658	646	9/ 761,000	547,150	600,320	555,520
Indochina	4/ 44	4/ 25	45	36	4/ 728	4/ 580	735	708	4/ 32,004	4/ 15,000	33,100	25,500
Indonesia	449	4/ 180	528	516	532	4/ 346	401	388	238,775	4/ 62,230	211,798	200,000
Japan	92	129	172	186	1,621	1,619	1,448	1,749	148,680	208,092	248,365	324,865
Korea	46	4/ 44	61	65	1,239	4/ 1,302	1,072	1,046	57,304	4/ 59,080	65,401	68,000
Pakistan	9/ 355	141	193	197	9/ 913	808	948	1,015	9/ 324,053	113,883	182,000	200,000
Philippine Islands	176	100	98	105	474	500	431	547	82,292	49,938	39,749	57,985
Taiwan (Formosa)	4	15	14	15	1,490	966	1,536	1,694	5,961	14,260	21,504	25,817
Thailand	4/ 53	83	107	136	4/ 489	380	375	380	4/ 25,900	35,200	40,102	51,736
Total Asia	3,742	3,495	4,163	4,259	-	-	-	-	3,199,838	2,882,776	3,178,392	3,365,397
OCEANIA:												
Australia	10	5	8	9	532	789	950	740	5,276	3,649	7,615	6,724
New Zealand	2	4	3	3	787	1,206	1,335	1,460	1,367	4,925	4,229	4,500
Total Oceania	12	9	11	12	-	-	-	-	6,643	8,574	11,844	11,224
Total For All Countries Shown	7,467	7,851	8,813	8,820	-	-	-	-	6,530,236	7,214,680	7,945,947	8,130,390

1/ Farm sales weight is about 10 percent above average dry weight, which is normally reported in export trade statistics. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Not available. 4/ Less than a 5-year average. 5/ Data are for Western Germany only. 6/ Less than 500 acres. 7/ Includes estimates for Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Rumania. 8/ Does not include Manchuria. 9/ Recently methods of estimating acreage and production have changed in an effort to improve data; therefore, data for 1935-39 are not comparable with later information.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

Europe

Output of leaf tobacco in Western Europe is estimated to be 623.7 million pounds in 1955, an increase of 21 million from 1954. Tobacco acreage in Greece was a record and output was a near record in spite of the fact that more than 30 million pounds were destroyed by heavy rains and flooding during the harvest period.

Production in Yugoslavia, Italy, Spain, and Germany exceeded last year's output, while in France the crop was estimated to be about 11 percent below the 1954 record and in Belgium both acreage and production were one-third lower.

Output in the Soviet Bloc in both 1954 and 1955 is estimated at 662.3 million pounds, although little is known about actual levels of production in these countries.

Africa

Smaller tobacco crops are reported this year in most African producing countries, with the most significant declines occurring in Nyasaland's fire-cured crop, which was 37.5 percent below the 1954 level, and in the Union of South Africa. Flue-cured output in Southern Rhodesia, which was about equal to last year's record, was considerably above the forecasts of the crop.

Asia

Total tobacco production in Asia in 1955 is estimated at 3,365 million pounds, an increase of 187 million as compared with 1954. Production in Japan is a record and is 76.5 million pounds or 31 percent above the 1954 level. Output in Turkey is estimated at 259 million pounds and is 20 percent higher than in 1954. China's crop is estimated at 1,425 million pounds, more than 6 percent above last year. Substantial increases are also reported in the Republic of the Philippines, Pakistan, Thailand, and Taiwan.

A decrease of 44 million pounds is reported in India, due principally to unfavorable weather. Decreases as compared with 1954 are also reported in Indonesia, Indochina, and Iraq.

Oceania

Total production in Oceania is placed at 11.2 million pounds, slightly less than in 1954. A 12-percent decline in the output in Australia was partly offset by a 6-percent increase in New Zealand's crop.

PRODUCTION BY KINDS

Most of the increase in tobacco production as compared with 1954 is accounted for by cigarette types, principally flue-cured and oriental. Flue-cured production is up from 2,503 million pounds in 1954 to 2,726 million in 1955, an increase of almost 9 percent. This type was up most in the United States (almost 200 million pounds), but substantial increases also occurred in Japan, China, Indonesia and the Republic of the Philippines, while Canada and India had decreases.

Oriental tobacco production was up 69 million pounds from last year and totaled 850 million in 1955. Increases were reported in most producing countries, with Turkey and Greece having the greatest increases.

Total output of Burley tobacco was 130.3 million pounds or 17.5 percent below the 1954 level, almost entirely due to the cut in the United States crop. Spain, Canada, and Germany are increasing Burley production.

Production of both light and dark sun-cured tobacco are up slightly from the 1954 level, principally as the result of increases in producing countries in Asia. Production of other types decreased slightly.

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TOBACCO: Estimated production in specified countries, harvested in calendar year 1955 with comparisons, by kinds--farm sales weight

Kinds	Average 1935-39	Average 1947-51	1954	1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Flue-cured	1,261,094	2,023,856	2,502,862	2,726,006
Burley	338,752	608,909	745,081	614,779
Other light air-cured	121,074	128,461	158,408	149,041
Dark air-cured	3,050,751	2,460,853	2,529,108	2,507,051
Light sun-cured	752,033	854,378	788,263	829,667
Dark sun-cured	186,121	245,751	326,486	344,360
Fire-cured	162,489	151,857	114,826	109,840
Oriental	649,639	728,887	780,913	849,646
Total	1/ 6,530,236	2/ 7,214,680	7,945,947	8,130,390

1/ Includes 226 thousand pounds for Cyprus and 8,057 thousand pounds for Iraq which are not identified by kind.

2/ Includes 11,728 thousand pounds for Iraq which is not identified by kind.

NIGERIAN TOBACCO IMPORTS UP 25 PERCENT

Nigerian imports of unmanufactured tobacco in the first half of 1955 totaled 1.9 million pounds -- up 25 percent from the 1.5 million pounds imported during the corresponding period of 1954.

NIGERIA: Imports of unmanufactured tobacco, with comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	January-June 1954	January-June 1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United States	3,681	4,204	1,463	1,703
Southern Rhodesia	858	2,157	39	-
India	1,125	562	-	203
Others	26	73	22	4
Total	5,690	6,996	1,524	1,910

Source: Nigeria Trade Summary, June 1955

Takings of United States leaf, principally Black-Fat, flue-cured, and One Sucker, were about 16 percent larger than last year. Imports of Black-Fat continue to rise, supplanting takings of One Sucker to a major extent since 1953. Takings of flue-cured continued a downward trend, being supplanted by larger takings from Southern Rhodesia and India.

PAKISTAN'S DEMAND FOR U. S. FLUE-CURED LEAF INCREASES

Pakistan's imports of United States flue-cured leaf during the January-September period of 1955 totaled 1.5 million pounds, exceeding imports for all calendar years prior to 1954. Imports of United States flue-cured during 1954 amounted to 1.8 million pounds and it is anticipated that takings for 1955 may approximate 2.5 million pounds.

Imports of United States flue-cured leaf are required for blending purposes to improve the quality of Pakistani cigarettes. The 1955 output of cigarettes, according to a recent report, may total 5.3 billion pieces, a 15 percent increase over the 4.6 billion produced during 1954. Additional plant capacity to be constructed in the near future is expected to increase output further by late 1956 or early 1957.

MALAYAN TOBACCO IMPORTS AT POSTWAR RECORD LEVEL

Malayan imports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first half of 1955 totaled 1.1 million pounds, exceeding all previous calendar years since 1946. Takings of United States flue-cured leaf have increased substantially, while imports from India and Southern Rhodesia, presumably flue-cured, show only a moderate increase over the first six months of 1954.

MALAYA: Imports of unmanufactured tobacco, with comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	January-June 1954	January-June 1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United States........	34	183	93	586
Southern Rhodesia....	181	582	241	343
Union of So. Africa..	-	36	12	18
India...............	219	234	138	157
Burma...............	37	28	13	13
Other...............	2	34	28	-
Total............	473	1,097	525	1,117

Source: Malayan Statistics, June 1955

Imports of cigarettes, principally from the United Kingdom, continued their downward trend through the first half of 1955 from the 1951 record level of 22.3 million pounds. Shipments from the United Kingdom continue to decline, whereas imports from Ireland, New Zealand, and China are increasing. The level of cigarette imports from the United States has remained relatively constant from the same six months of last year.

MALAYA: Imports of cigarettes, with comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	January-June 1954	January-June 1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United Kingdom.......	16,763	16,004	7,923	7,712
Ireland..............	514	691	306	425
United States........	1,326	1,161	573	575
Other................	164	29	19	11
	18,767	17,885	8,821	8,723

Source: Malayan Statistics, June 1955

PERU'S COTTON EXPORTS DECLINE IN 1954-55

Peru's cotton exports of 330,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the August-July 1954-55 marketing year represented a 9-percent decline from exports of 361,000 bales in 1953-54. Sharpest decline was in exports to the United Kingdom, which dropped from 104,000 bales in 1953-54 to 45,000 in 1954-55. Declines were also registered in exports to the Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Argentina, and Colombia, with increased exports shown for Switzerland, Chile, and the United States.

PERU: Exports of cotton by countries of destination; averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1951-54

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Averages		1951	1952	1953	1954
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Belgium	14.2	25.4	26.3	47.5	44.2	47.0
Denmark	.8	1/ 1.7	7.4	9.8	6.7	8.5
France	9.0	5.9	55.5	24.6	25.4	24.9
Germany, Rep. of	78.3	2.5	6.8	30.2	43.3	35.7
Italy	5.2	14.9	2.0	2.6	2.4	4.1
Netherlands	13.7	10.3	6.0	24.8	26.8	16.5
Switzerland	.6	21.6	6.5	6.3	5.6	12.1
United Kingdom	169.4	83.7	94.3	74.2	104.4	44.7
United States	1.6	25.8	11.7	14.6	8.4	22.4
India	2.7	28.4	2.6	3.5	.3	6.3
Japan	29.6	.2	5.3	16.6	12.7	15.0
Argentina	.3	6.8	8.5	6.6	14.0	3.4
Chile	8.5	28.3	48.1	71.9	33.3	71.5
Colombia	.4	29.4	11.7	39.1	20.6	5.5
Other countries	3.5	16.4	14.5	25.3	13.0	12.5
Total	337.8	301.3	307.2	397.6	361.1	330.1

1/ 2-year average

Source: Algodon, Agricultural Attaches, and other United States representatives abroad.

Cotton production in Peru for the year 1954-55 was estimated at 510,000 bales, an increase of 7 percent over 1953-54 production of 475,000 bales. Preliminary estimates of the 1955-56 crop, however, indicate reductions in all three of Peru's principal varieties, Tanguis, Pima, and Karnak, with the total crop showing a 3-percent decline to approximately 495,000 bales.

Peru's cotton consumption for 1954-55 was estimated at 80,000 bales, as compared with 65,000 in 1953-54, an increase of 23 percent. The greater utilization of cotton is attributed to the increased local demand for textiles and the advance in textile import duties.

Cotton stocks in Peru on August 1, 1955, were estimated at 340,000 bales, building up from the 265,000 bales held a year earlier because of the increased production and reduced exports.

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U. S. COTTON LINTERS EXPORTS, SEPTEMBER 1955

Exports of cotton linters (mostly chemical grades, 5-7) from the United States in September 1955 amounted to 19,000 bales (480 pounds net) dropping considerably from the 27,000 bales exported in August, but well above the 13,000 bales exported in September a year ago. Exports in September 1955 were destined principally to the United Kingdom 7,600 bales, the Republic of Germany 7,200, Canada 2,100, and Japan 1,500.

U. S. COTTON LINTERS IMPORTS, SEPTEMBER 1955

United States imports of cotton linters (mostly felting grades, 1-4) in September 1955 amounted to 17,000 bales (480 pounds net), practically the same as linters imports in August 1955, as well as linters imports in September 1954. Principal sources of imports during the current month were Mexico 11,600 bales, U.S.S.R. 2,600, the Republic of Germany 1,100, El Salvador 800, and Brazil 600.

U. S. COTTON IMPORTS, SEPTEMBER 1955

United States imports of cotton (for consumption) in September 1955 amounted to 23,700 bales (480 pounds net), increasing sharply from the 7,400 bales imported in August. Imports from Mexico under the 1955-56 quota which opened September 20 accounted for most of the increase. The September imports from Mexico amounted to about 75 percent of the yearly quota of 18,500 bales.

Cotton imports into the United States in September 1955, with September 1954 figures in parentheses were: Asiatic type, under 3/4-inch, harsh or rough: Pakistan 2,700 (800); India 400 (200); Upland type: Mexico 14,300 (100); Brazil none (200); Egyptian type 1-1/8 to 1-11/16 inches: Egypt 4,200 (2,700); Peru 600 (300); Anglo-Egyptian Sudan 300 (600); and Egyptian type over 1-11/16 inches: Peru 1,200 (1,600).

CANADA'S COTTON CONSUMPTION DROPS SLIGHTLY IN OCTOBER

Canada's cotton consumption in October 1955 amounted to 33,300 bales (500 pounds gross), a decline of 3 percent from the 34,300 bales consumed in September, but 19 percent higher than consumption of 28,000 bales in October 1954. Cotton utilization throughout the entire year has been consistently higher than in the previous year. Consumption during August-October 1955, amounting to 100,000 bales, was 18 percent higher than for a comparable period a year ago. Consumption for the August-July 1954-55 marketing year amounted to 352,000 bales or 17 percent higher than the 300,000 bales consumed in 1953-54.

Canada's cotton imports in the August-July 1954-55 year amounted to 358,000 bales or 26 percent higher than the imports of 285,000 bales in 1953-54. Imports from the United States were 324,000 bales or 91 percent of the total in 1954-55 and 244,000 bales or 86 percent of the total in 1953-54. Recent reports, however, have indicated that less United States cotton is being purchased at the present time, because of its unfavorable price relation in comparison with foreign growths.

CANADA: Imports of cotton from major countries of origin; averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1951-54

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1					
	Averages					
	1935-39	1945-49	1951	1952	1953	1954
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Brazil	1/	16	0	2/	17	5
Egypt	8	1	2/	27	13	0
India	2	3/ 3	2	4	1	1
Mexico	1/	79	32	30	4	19
Peru	1/	2/	2/	2/	2/	1
United States	321	295	311	297	244	324
Other countries	3	1	0	4/ 16	6	5/ 8
Total	334	395	345	374	285	358

1/ If any, included in "Other countries". 2/ Less than 500 bales.
3/ Includes Pakistan. 4/ Argentina 15. 5/ Guatemala 4.

Source: Cotton Institute of Canada.

ISRAEL PRODUCES FIRST COMMERCIAL COTTON CROP IN 1954-55

Israel's first commercial cotton crop, in the August-July 1954-55 marketing year, amounted to approximately 3,500 bales (500 pounds gross) as compared with about 1,000 bales produced in 1953-54, and only nominal amounts in earlier years. Cotton acreage for the 1954-55 crop was placed at about 5,700 acres, as compared with an estimated 2,000 acres in 1953-54. Planted area for the 1955-56 crop is tentatively placed at 6,000 acres.

Cotton consumption in Israel was estimated at 28,000 bales in 1954-55 and at 25,000 in 1953-54. Production capacity in the seven existing cotton spinning mills remained practically the same in these two years, between 27,000 and 30,000 bales. Nearly all of the mills are reportedly planning to increase capacity in the coming year.

Israel's cotton imports in calendar year 1954 were reported at 22,000 bales and at 13,000 for the first 6 months of 1955. Imports from the United States account for about 68 percent of these totals, amounting to 15,000 bales in 1954, and 8,600 in the latter period. Turkey is the other major source of Israel's cotton, supplying about 25 percent of total imports in both periods. Cotton stocks on August 1, 1955, were estimated at 6,000 bales, unchanged from the quantity held a year earlier.

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FRENCH WEST AFRICAN PEANUT MARKETINGS UP SUBSTANTIALLY

French West Africa expects to market 716,495 short tons of peanuts (in-shell basis) from the 1955 crop. This is 14 percent more than the tonnage marketed from the previous year's crop. Marketings by areas are reported as follows in short tons:

Area	1954	Estimate 1955
Senegal	430,745	534,615
Sudan	88,185	79,365
Niger	77,160	79,365
Other	34,425	23,150
Total	630,515	716,495

FRENCH OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION AT POSTWAR LOW

Production of olive oil in metropolitan France during the current crop year is not expected to exceed 6,600 short tons and is likely to be only around 5,000 tons. Individual forecasts vary from 3,300 to 7,700 tons. Last year's production, in the absence of official data, is privately estimated at from 7,700 and 11,000 tons. Current stocks, including imported oil, are placed at about 3,850 tons by the trade. Import figures for the first 9 months of 1955 (4,246 tons) indicate a substantial reduction below the level of 11,315 tons imported last year. This, plus the short domestic crop, is expected to lead to considerably larger imports in 1956. Prices have been advancing steadily over the last year and are expected to rise further as a result of the small crop.

ITALIAN OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION OUTLOOK LOWEST IN 8 YEARS

Olive oil production in Italy is likely to be smaller this year than in any year since 1948. A figure of 165,000 short tons seems to be the currently most reasonable among a number of widely divergent forecasts. In any case, it now appears unlikely that more than 220,000 tons will be produced. The estimate of 165,000 tons is just half the 1954 production and is not too surprising since it follows two consecutive years of high-level output. Severe dacus fly attacks in the South and Islands, and hail and sleet damage in some areas, have reportedly had a material effect on this year's crop. Sicily's crop is poor for the second year running, with some trees not bearing at all.

Average quality of oil pressed this year is also lower, but prices are up. Grade B oil was wholesaling in Milan for Lire 48,000 to 49,000 per quintal (34.8-35.6 cents per pound) in early November, compared with Lire 44,000 to 45,000 (31.9-32.7 cents) in mid-May. Prices are expected to rise even further as dealers are reportedly holding on to their stocks.

The carryover at the end of the 1955-56 consumption year is expected to be considerably below the carryin stocks of 22,000 tons. As most of the Mediterranean basin is apparently harvesting short crops this year, Italian imports of olive oil will probably not exceed greatly the average 23,000 tons imported in recent years. However, oilseed and seed oil imports will jump sizably to make up for the deficit in domestic requirements of edible oils, perhaps to as much as 200,000 tons of oil equivalent in 1956, compared with an average of around 100,000 tons during the past three years.

An announcement regarding the 1955-56 Government "voluntary pool" (support program) is expected shortly, but the rising price trend indicates, in general, that growers will not have to resort to the pool this year; 12,000 tons were pooled from last year's crop.

The export figure of 5,665 tons for the first half of 1955 does not show any great departure from the previous year's level, nor does the percentage (60 percent) destined to the United States market.

PHILIPPINE COCONUT PRODUCTS SITUATION, JANUARY-SEPTEMBER

Philippine production of copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut during January-September 1955 is estimated at 833,515 long tons, copra equivalent basis, or about 3 percent larger than estimated production in the comparable period of 1954.

PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC: Copra, coconut oil, and desiccated coconut production in copra equivalent, average 1947-51, annual 1952-54, and January-September 1954-55

(Long tons)

	Average 1947-51	1952	1953	1954 1/	January-September 1954	January-September 1955
Exports:						
Copra	720,487	651,764	592,267	758,002	551,859	567,615
Coconut oil as copra 2/	87,517	126,290	92,998	104,337	75,816	84,241
Desiccated coconut as copra 3/	61,294	45,192	56,770	54,537	41,567	38,802
Total as copra	869,298	823,246	742,035	916,876	669,242	690,658
Domestic utilization:						
Coconut oil as copra 2/	89,035	111,111	163,492	187,619	140,715	142,857
Total production as Copra 4/	958,333	934,357	905,527	1,104,495	809,957	833,515

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Computed at 63 percent oil extraction rate. 3/ Computed as 83 percent of copra equivalent. 4/ Excluding coconut utilized in the making of home-made oil and native culinary preparations.

Source: Philippine trade.

Copra and coconut oil production at 794,713 tons, copra equivalent basis, exceeded output during the first 3 quarters of 1954 by 2 percent. Coconut production in 1955 has been favored by good weather. Coconut oil production as such amounted to about 227,100 tons--5 percent more than in the comparable period of last year. Increasing demand for coconut oil products in the Philippine Republic has encouraged the production and utilization of more coconut oil.

Production of desiccated coconut in the first 3 quarters of the current year totaled 33,015 tons, 4 percent less than the same period of 1954. The decrease is attributed to the poor buying interest in the United States and the two-month shutdown in one of the principal factories because of a strike. Trade reports indicate that United States inventories are low and that buyers may be more active than usual during the remainder of the year. At present factories are operating at about 70 percent of capacity. (Cont'd., next page.)

Exports of copra during January-September at 567,615 tons were 3 percent larger than in 1954. The United States took 40 percent of the total and Europe 43 percent. A new development in the trade was the exportation of 3,921 tons to Japan in August. There had been no exports to that country since 1952 because Japan had been buying Indonesian copra. Lack of bottoms in Indonesia is principally the cause of the switch to Philippine copra.

Coconut oil exports of 53,072 tons were 11 percent more than in the same months of 1954. The United States took 96 percent of the total.

Copra export prices averaged $150.85 per short ton c.i.f. Pacific Coast during the third quarter of 1955. This represents a decrease of $10.21 from the average during the same period of last year. Coconut oil prices averaged 45 pesos per kilo (10 cents per pound) in Manila against 51 pesos (12 cents) in the third quarter of 1954 and 11 cents per pound f.o.b. tank cars Pacific Coast (12 cents in 1954).

As to the general outlook--daily production of copra is at a high level and stocks, particularly in Southern Luzon, are larger than usual. It is believed that the Philippine Republic should be able to ship a larger volume of copra to world markets in 1956. Foreign demand and price offerings appear to be the determining factors.

SUEZ CANAL TRAFFIC IN SOYBEANS STILL HIGH

Shipments of soybeans northward through the Suez Canal were 2,037,600 bushels in August as compared with 698,100 bushels in the same month of 1954. The total northbound soybean traffic through August was 16,497,800 bushels as compared with 10,618,800 bushels during the same period in 1954 and 11,721,100 bushels during the entire year of 1954.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U.S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Issued recently and available free upon request from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Foreign Agricultural Trade Digest: November, 1955.

India Has All-Time Record Vegetable Oil Supply in 1955. Foreign Ag. Circ. FFO-18-55

WORLD COFFEE PRODUCTION FORECAST FOR 1955-56 UP 1.5 MILLION BAGS

Total world production of green coffee for the marketing year 1955-56 is estimated now at 46.5 million bags (of 132.276 pounds each), almost 1.5 million bags higher than the July 28 forecast of 45.0 million bags. 1/ The current estimate for 1955-56, a record crop season, exceeds the estimate of 41.3 million bags (revised) for 1954-55 by almost 13 percent, and exceeds the prewar (1935-39) average of 41.6 million bags by almost 12 percent. Upward revisions are noted for every continental area, but the major revision is noted for Brazil, which is now estimated to have produced a total 22.2 million bags for the marketing season beginning July 1, 1955 (Table, p. 669.)

Exportable production from the 1955-56 crop is expected now to reach 38.3 million bags, compared with almost 33.0 million bags (revised) for 1954-55 and an average 28.8 million bags for the postwar (1946-50) period. Since the July 28 forecast, most of the 1954-55 production estimates for Central America have been revised upward. It is believed that as the 1954-55 marketing year exports become known for the non-reporting areas of Africa and Asia, the 1954-55 estimate will be revised upward. With reference to the forecasts for 1955-56, sizable increases are indicated in the forecast for Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti, Brazil, French West Africa, and Indonesia. Reports received since July 28 from the Dominican Republic, Angola, and Ethiopia indicate little change, while Mexico and Venezuela indicate declines from the original forecasts. (Table, p. 668.)

The estimate of total Brazilian coffee production for the 1955-56 season, which began July 1, is revised upward to 22.2 million bags, compared with 17.6 million bags for 1954-55 and 19.0 million bags for 1953-54. The total of 22.2 million bags is derived from registered production estimated now at 19.2 million bags. Such a production should result in an exportable surplus of 18.3 million bags. The breakdown of registered production, by area of Brazil, for the seasons 1953-54 to 1955-56, is as follows: (Text cont'd., p. 670.)

(Million bags of 132.376 pounds each)

Primary areas of production	I.B.C. registrations by Oct. 31			Total registrations		
	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1953-54	1954-55	Est. 1955-56
Sao Paulo 1/	4.4	5.6	6.6	6.1	7.3	8.0
Parana	2.1	1.0	4.1	3.2	1.3	5.0
Other Brazil	3.0	2.9	3.4	5.8	5.9	6.2
Total Brazil	9.5	9.5	14.1	15.1	14.5	19.2

1/ However, despatches to ports by the farmers through October 20 are as follows: 1953/54 - 5.3 million bags; 1954/55 - 6.2 million bags; and 1955/56 - 7.3 million bags.

1/ The last detailed forecast of world coffee production, published July 28, 1955, in the Foreign Agricultural Circular FCOF 7-55, World Coffee Production for 1955-56 Forecast at 45.0 Million Bags.

GREEN COFFEE: World exportable production for the marketing year 1955-56, with comparisons

(1,000 bags of 132.276 pounds each)

Continent and country	Average 1946/47-1950/51	1952-53	Preliminary Estimate 1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
NORTH AMERICA					
Costa Rica	316	478	331	508	364
Cuba	112	1	-	75	250
Dominican Republic	236	351	436	352	444
El Salvador	1,108	1,232	927	1,190	1/ 955
Guatemala	834	939	950	890	1/ 900
Haiti	421	411	578	326	533
Honduras	75	151	189	200	1/ 190
Mexico	685	1,245	1,215	1,400	1,400
Nicaragua	214	317	284	369	1/ 290
Other North America 2/	31	35	49	63	1/ 65
Total North America	4,032	5,160	4,959	5,373	5,391
SOUTH AMERICA					
Brazil	14,380	15,200	14,300	13,700	18,300
Colombia	5,200	5,705	6,100	6,000	1/ 6,500
Ecuador	245	351	290	387	1/ 307
Peru	14	72	70	90	1/ 90
Venezuela	438	736	417	552	300
Other South America 3/	22	48	52	55	1/ 60
Total South America	20,299	22,112	21,229	20,784	25,557
AFRICA					
Angola	828	949	1,261	1,000	1,000
Belgian Congo	522	590	559	590	1/ 555
Ethiopia	274	650	578	680	517
French West Africa	858	1,133	1,458	1,370	1,750
Kenya	150	207	190	195	1/ 190
Madagascar	453	692	743	690	1/ 750
Tanganyika	234	216	340	415	1/ 400
Uganda	488	430	660	710	1/ 690
Other Africa	355	414	422	506	505
Total Africa	4,162	5,281	6,211	6,156	6,357
ASIA and OCEANIA					
India	27	108	208	125	1/ 150
Indonesia	108	387	802	380	670
Yemen	89	58	58	50	1/ 50
Other Asia and Oceania 4/	37	72	82	85	75
Total Asia and Oceania	261	625	1,150	640	945
WORLD EXPORTABLE PRODUCTION	28,754	33,178	33,549	32,953	38,250

1/ Forecast of July 28.
2/ Jamaica, Trinidad, Panama and Guadeloupe only.
3/ Subject to further revision.
4/ French New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Portuguese Timor only.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

GREEN COFFEE: World total production for the marketing year 1955/56, with comparisons

(1,000 bags of 132.276 pounds each)

Continent and country	Averages 1935/36-1939/40	Averages 1946/47-1950/51	1952-53	Preliminary estimate 1953-54	Preliminary estimate 1954-55	Preliminary estimate 1955-56
NORTH AMERICA						
Costa Rica	390	371	551	395	564	421
Cuba	425	564	451	595	642	795
Dominican Republic	347	348	442	526	442	534
El Salvador	1,091	1,203	1,365	1,070	1,335	1/ 1,100
Guatemala	1,002	1,044	1,149	1,140	1,080	1,090
Haiti	538	617	616	768	516	623
Honduras	57	131	197	249	260	1/ 250
Mexico	959	1,004	1,461	1,415	1,600	1,600
Nicaragua	280	277	372	339	414	1/ 345
Other North America 2/	251	311	420	538	500	1/ 550
Total North America	5,340	5,870	7,024	7,035	7,353	7,308
SOUTH AMERICA						
Brazil	25,340	18,704	19,170	19,000	17,600	22,200
Colombia	4,452	5,840	6,405	6,800	6,700	1/ 7,200
Ecuador	254	270	390	328	425	1/ 345
Peru	80	93	152	153	170	1/ 170
Venezuela	940	698	950	650	812	600
Other South America 3/	83	49	62	73	68	1/ 73
Total South America	31,149	25,654	27,129	27,004	25,775	30,588
AFRICA						
Angola	300	816	957	1,269	1,008	1,008
Belgian Congo	320	538	600	569	600	1/ 565
Ethiopia	345	343	700	628	730	567
French West Africa	250	940	1,218	1,543	1,450	1,835
Kenya	297	156	215	198	203	1/ 195
Madagascar	537	503	740	790	750	1/ 810
Tanganyika	263	240	223	347	422	1/ 410
Uganda	225	494	440	671	720	1/ 700
Other Africa 4/	65	355	414	422	506	505
Total Africa	2,602	4,385	5,507	6,437	6,389	6,595
ASIA and OCEANIA						
India	278	323	399	498	415	1/ 440
Indonesia	1,961	485	1,008	1,100	980	1,170
Yemen	80	99	67	80	70	1/ 70
Other Asia and Oceania 5/	176	94	268	290	309	327
Total Asia and Oceania	2,495	1,001	1,742	1,968	1,774	2,007
TOTAL WORLD PRODUCTION	41,586	36,910	41,402	42,444	41,291	46,498

1/ Forecast of July 28.
2/ Includes B.W.I., Panama Republic, and Puerto Rico.
3/ Subject to further revision. Includes Bolivia, Surinam, and Paraguay.
4/ Exportable production only. Includes Cape Verde, French Cameroon, French Equatorial Africa and French Togoland, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Spanish Africa and Gold Coast.
5/ Includes French Indochina, North Borneo, Philippine Republic, Hawaii, New Caledonia, and New Hebrides.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Official estimates of foreign countries, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

The figures on registrations of coffee in Brazil illustrate the effect on output of new trees just moving into production. In Sao Paulo, the older trees this past spring had an off-year in the bi-annual cycle of yield fluctuations, based on past production data. However, an estimated 100 million new trees, little more than 3 years old, moved into production this year and offset the old-tree decline in yields by adding 500,000 to 1,000,000 bags to registered production. Next season (1956-57) should be a good year for the older trees and a better year for the new trees. Any forecast of a decline in production for Sao Paulo during 1956-57 must be discounted heavily.

In Parana, damage from the frost of 1953 had a material effect on production for 1955-56. Damage to that crop from the 1955 frost was negligible. However, the 1955 frost damage will seriously affect the 1956-57 crop, which is forecast by many trade and government officials at less than 1 million bags. In the other areas of Brazil, there has been an estimated 20-percent net increase in the number of producing trees since the period 1946-50. This increase of producing trees has eliminated the bi-annual fluctuation in registered production, which was pronounced prior to 1954-55. This season, production continued to rise as the old trees enjoyed a good year and new trees continued to move into production.

The season 1955-56 is, in general, an off-year for the older producing trees of Central America and the Caribbean producing areas. However, a combination of new trees and better cultivation practices should hold output at least to the level of 1954-55 and probably higher. In South American areas, other than Brazil and Colombia, an off-year for older trees indicates a production lower than that of 1954-55, but higher than the previous off-year 1953-54. The estimates of African production for 1954-55 and 1955-56 indicate a continued rise in production despite reduced crops in some areas.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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